

Sheriff Gary Del Re



Undersheriff Gary Stryker

PRESS RELEASE

Lake County Sheriff's Office • 25 S. Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue • Waukegan, Illinois 60085

For Immediate Release

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SHERIFF ANNOUNCES ARREST OF SEXUAL PREDATOR

WAUKEGAN, IL. – Lake County Sheriff Gary Del De today announced the arrest of a 35 year old former Beach Park, IL resident who was named in an arrest warrant, charging him with eight counts of Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child. Arrested was Matthew L. Mooney, a current resident of Stone Mountain, Arkansas.

The sexual assaults occurred in the Beach Park, IL area between January 1, 1998 and December 31, 1999. At that time, the two victims in this matter were seven years of age. The facts of this case came to light on October 29, 2003 after the victims confided in their church minister. After being told of the assaults, the minister notified the Lake County Sheriff's Office.

During the course of the investigation, Detectives learned that Mooney was involved in a dating relationship with a family member of the victims. During this time, Mooney was introduced to the two victims. It is alleged the attacks occurred in two different locations in the Beach Park area.

After securing the arrest warrant, Sheriff's Office Detectives notified members of the Stone Mountain, Arkansas Police Department who arrested Mooney at his home without incident. Mooney is currently awaiting extradition back to Lake County to answer these charges. Bond on the warrant has been set at \$600,000.00.